

THE FIRST INCUBATOR

Directions Followed Closely Will Result in Larger Percentage of Chicks.

BY DESSIE L. PUTNAM.

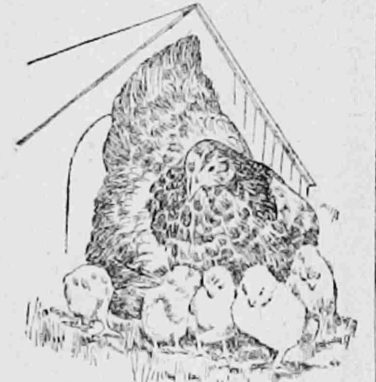
It is ready to work at any and all seasons; the oil to run it costs less than the feed for hens doing the same amount of work; there is no trouble from vermin; broilers can be produced early without interrupting the laying of the highest-priced eggs; the care of the incubator is less work than that of the hens to do its work, especially during the inclement season, and is more agreeable. These are some of the arguments in favor of the incubator.

On the other hand, a reliable hen will produce fewer chicks, and perhaps have better success if the eggs happen to not be perfectly fresh, yet on this point science is making rapid strides. Notice that I say a reliable hen. But these are rare. The average hen will not be better than the incubator, while many fall far below the machine in results.

If you contemplate putting it in the barn or some other out-of-the-way place where it will be subjected to extremes of weather and little care, don't get it.

But if you have a dry and well-ventilated room with a temperature of preferably 60 degrees and not lower than 50 degrees at any time, and are willing to give it a reasonable amount of care, the investment will pay, even if you do not want to raise more than a hundred chicks in a season.

A cold room necessitates running the lamp at the highest notch and doubling the expense of oil; besides when the eggs are aired they become chilled too.



THE ORIGINAL INCUBATOR.

suddenly and too much. If there are extremes of temperature the regulator and lamp will require very close watching.

While it should not be necessary to sit up nights with the incubator, neither is it wise to treat it like a clock—to be wound up once a day and left to itself for the remainder of the time.

A cellar is apt to be damp and lack ventilation. A chamber makes too much running up and down stairs. If possible have it in a room adjoining the one where the work is done.

Good results come, if the kitchen is large enough, by placing the machine in one corner. Many successful poultry women give it a place in the living room, and even the parlor may be used, as there is nothing unsightly or untidy about the work save the day or two during the hatching process, and then the interest makes amends for the temporary disorder.

Before buying, secure catalogues from several reliable dealers, study carefully the claims of the manufacturers and your own requirements.

Avoid the cheapest machine of any make. As a rule it is so small that it is difficult to secure uniformity of temperature in the egg chamber.

The nursery, an important adjunct, is usually lacking in the smallest machines. If one of the largest size is chosen it will be found cumbersome; it requires too long time for filling if your own eggs are used; if the hatch happens to be a poor one your loss is that much greater.

A machine of about 100-egg capacity is large enough for the beginner, contains all essential conveniences, and one can later increase the capacity if success attends the humble effort.

Study both directions and machine thoroughly before starting the incubator. Have it on a firm, level foundation and avoid drafts that good ventilation and avoidance of drafts are as necessary to the chick in embryo as to the human being.

The experienced hand always runs an incubator a day before filling, to make sure that the parts are working properly. The novice with a new machine should not feel it time lost to wait until three days after she has learned to control the heat at or about the required notch. The gears are especially sensitive during the first few days, and undue heating will ruin the entire hatch.

The fresher the eggs the larger the percentage of chicks. Never use those over two weeks old, and two days is much better.

WORK IN THE HOME DAIRY

Powdered borax used occasionally in place of soap will keep the milk cans sweet and clean.

It is a good plan to have two sets of milk utensils. Rinse with clear hot water in which there is a handful of salt. Use no soap and let the utensils used for night's milk have the sun and air during the day and those used for morning's milk have the air at night. Handle the cow with her first calf very gently. She is naturally irritable and feverish and her udder and teats are quite tender.

Allow the calf to stay with her for a few days, because if it should be taken away at once she would fret and sulk to her fever.

She will probably act unnaturally, but this will be due to her condition and not always to her disposition. If she is not handled with gentleness at this critical time she may develop into an unruly or even a vicious cow. Never allow any person who has just come from the sick room to milk a cow.

Persons who have the care of diphtheria or scarlet fever patients should never enter the dairy.

It is dangerous to keep milk in a cellar under a sickroom, as dangerous diseases have been contracted in this way.

SCIENTIFIC METHODS EMPLOYED

There is no better capital in farming than knowledge. But it is easier to appreciate this when we see it worked out in tangible results. To see the truth about our soil and actually apply the treatment demanded means ample reward.

Judge J. Otis Humphrey of the United States District court at Springfield, Ill., has given a striking example of this. He is a careful student of agriculture, and thought that a forty-acre farm adjoining his land could be induced to quit its loafing and get down to business, the soil itself being originally good.

It had grown nothing but corn for many years and recently had produced no more than twenty to twenty-five bushels per acre, along with a perfect stand of cockle burrs.

Judge Humphrey bought the place at \$75 per acre and began with oats. The yield was a little less than thirty bushels per acre, worth 27 cents per bushel. An immense crop of burrs was plowed under the middle of August and wheat sown.

Clover was sown the following spring. The harvest resulted in a yield of seventeen bushels per acre. The latent half of the cockle burr seed, which had lain in the ground two years, came up along with the clover, and the plants were all clipped off in August.

The third year (1907) two fine crops of clover were produced, two tons per acre of hay and four bushels per acre of \$8.50 seed. This one year the land returned three-fourths of its cost price.

Fine ground rock phosphate, 1,500 pounds per acre, and a heavy application of barnyard manure were applied to this clover ground.

When the land was broken for corn last spring the clover had made a growth of twenty inches, and this applied a valuable green manure. The corn was planted early, well worked and yielded about seventy-five bushels per acre of well-matured corn, which nearly equaled the value of the last year's clover crop.

The four crops paid for the farm, the fertilizer and manures, all labor bestowed and left some margin besides. The burrs are gone. Much of the manure and phosphate applied remains in the soil to increase future crops. Under this more intelligent treatment greater use will be made of the plant food that was in the soil. This farm is now \$150 land.

These actual results on a Sangamon county farm speak louder than any mere argument could for heeding the teachings of science and the methods of the most successful farmers, and having the courage to put into actual practice the proven principles of agriculture—Arthur J. Bill, Illinois Farm Institute.

TO RAISE PURE-BRED COLTS

In all pure breeds the original "scrub" blood at the foundation is ever seeking to reconstitute itself. In short, there is a tendency in all pure-bred animals to degenerate or retrogress toward original and less perfect types, and nothing will more surely and speedily stimulate this tendency than lack of nutritious food. In the absence of sufficient nutrition or complete nutrition the possibilities of perfection inherited from pure-bred sires or dams but partially materialized or wholly fail to assert themselves.

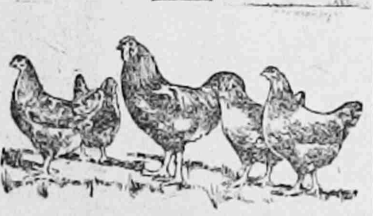
The well-born but incompletely nourished colt fails to develop at maturity is no less a "weed" than is the ordinary scrub or native animal. On the other hand, if the dam is adequately nourished on complete rations during pregnancy and when nursing, and the colt from weaning time forward is as perfectly and fully fed, it will in all probability develop to the high standard of size, power, quality and character made possible by its breeding.

In addition to proper feeding, it is likewise necessary to protect the young developing animal against every possible cause of debility, discomfort and ill health that would tend to retard its growth. Shelter must therefore be sufficient. Disease must be fought against. Vermin must be prevented from saprophytic attacks, and fresh air, sunlight, adequate exercise and kindly care must take a full part in perfecting the development of the animal.

STRYCHNINE A POOR HOG FOOD

A farmer read in an alleged farm paper that strychnine is a good tonic for hogs and concluded to try it on about twenty of his herd. He thought his hogs were not fattening up as much as he desired, and although there was no disease among them, as he could discover, he concluded they needed a tonic. He proceeded to dose up some strychnine to give them. He gave it to them in a body, and of course some of them got more than their share. The result was that fourteen of them died, and died quickly, and almost without a struggle. Some of these would weigh about 200 pounds. It is not safe to give strong medicine to animals without knowing its effect. Strychnine can be given to hogs or to most any other animal without serious results, but it must be given in proper quantities and had better be prescribed by a physician or a veterinarian.

PRIZE-WINNING CHICKENS



Rose Comb Rhode Island Reds, silver cup winners at Chicago in 1906, 1907 and 1908. Bred and owned by P. H. Sprague, Ill.

The New Hampshire station has demonstrated the fact that the steady loss of weight which fruits undergo, even under most favorable conditions of storage, is due to a process of breathing similar to that occurring in animals. When oxygen is taken in and carbon dioxide given out. Lowering the temperature does not stop this breathing process, but only slows it down. Therefore apples cannot be kept in cold storage an indefinite period, as many people believe.

Farmers in the vicinity of Cameron, Texas, cleared \$60 to \$150 per acre by raising watermelons and cantaloupes last season.

WAR ON THE BUGS NOW

Begin the Fight Early and Keep It Up if You Would Eliminate These Pests.

BY J. FISHER.

All insects pass the winter in some stage of their existence. The question is, Where and how? Certainly not on the wing, and often in a way that they can be easily destroyed.

Watch the fences and weather boarding of unpainted buildings for the chrysalis of the cabbage worm, neatly suspended by a couple of silken threads. Some of these mischief-making butterflies will emerge and they will prove many times more difficult to destroy.

Many insects pass the winter in egg or larval form in the rubbish about the farm, old weed stalks, clumps of dead grass and the remains of last year's crop being common lurking places. Fire is a sure destroyer and cleans the ground nicely for plowing.

Early plowing in spring is hard on the insects, the freshly exposed soil being cleared of them by frost. This

VENTILATE THE HOG PENS

An important feature of this house is the ventilator, which is a small cap covering a hole at the top and in the center of the roof. The hole is made by sawing off opposite ends of two roof boards and covering it with a cap so arranged as to leave openings 3 by 12



AN IMPROVED "WIGWAM" HOG COOT.

inches on each side of the roof. This is sufficient ventilation for two or three animals when all the doors are shut, and if more ventilation is desired it can easily be secured by opening the small sliding door in the rear. This simple plan of ventilation avoids any direct drafts upon the animals and proves very efficient.

SWEET PEAS REQUIRE A GREAT DEAL OF WATER



A good way to sprinkle sweet peas is by means of a small hand sprayer. It forces the water under the leaves and wets every portion of the plants.

is especially a favorite remedy for cutworm, though the finely pulverized soil, which is a resultant, invites the ants freely.

The pupa of the tomato worm is often plowed up in the garden and is distinguished by an appendage like the handle of a pitcher. While in this stage most insect life is dormant, the tomato or potato worm pupa expresses its disapproval of being disturbed by a series of hops. If placed in a sunny window it will develop into a magnificent butterfly—but every one knows the horrid green larva which follows.

Every one is familiar with the snapping bugs or click-beetles, which creep into our windows and amuse us by falling on their backs and feigning death. Presently they make a clicking noise and flip over several inches. If they fall on their backs the performance is repeated until they alight on their feet, when they scamper off.

Their larvae live near the surface of the ground, and from their long, scarcely tapering form and hard covering are known as wire-worms. There is hardly a cultivated plant which they do not infest, and working as they do beneath the soil, they are difficult to catch.

If the cells containing the pupae or recently transformed adults are broken their inmates perish. Fall plowing is one way to lessen the nuisance, as the plowing and successive freezing must destroy many of them. The lady bug in various forms is quite common indoors and out, and should be always carefully guarded as one of the best aids in destroying aphids. The little red lady bug with a black dot on each wing cover is often found about houses in winter, and should be transferred to the conservatory or window garden.

It is often mistaken for the buffalo beetle and destroyed, though the latter is smaller and black and white, with simply a longitudinal band of dull red along both sides of the back.

HARVESTING A BIG CROP

Twenty-two hundred and fifty combined harvesting machines, operated by steam, gasoline, horses and mules, and 80,000 men were required to garner the wheat crop, estimated at 60,000,000 bushels, in Washington, Oregon and Idaho last season.

The value of the crop is placed at from \$45,000,000 to \$50,000,000. The machines cut about 5 per cent of the total yield and on this it is estimated that there was a saving of 5 cents a bushel and two bushels of waste grain to the acre, adding nearly \$2,000,000 to the revenue of the producers.

The men were paid \$6,000,000 in wages, the average cost of saving the crop being 10 cents a bushel, exclusive of bags and haulage to warehouses.

CAPACITIES OF CISTERNS

For 100 Gallons	Capacity Per Inch	For 100 Gallons	Capacity Per Inch
10 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	1,100	10 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	1,100
12 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	1,584	12 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	1,584
14 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	2,156	14 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	2,156
16 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	2,816	16 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	2,816
18 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	3,564	18 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	3,564
20 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	4,400	20 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	4,400
22 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	5,324	22 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	5,324
24 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	6,336	24 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	6,336
26 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	7,436	26 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	7,436
28 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	8,624	28 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	8,624
30 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	9,900	30 feet diameter, 10 feet deep	9,900

Recently fifty-four acres of cedar were sold at public auction in Tennessee. The successful bidder paid \$4,964.

WORK IN THE POULTRY YARD

If you do not get a reasonably good crop of eggs this month make up your mind that it is your fault.

The early pullets will be doing excellent laying this month, and the late hatched pullets and the late molting hens should also get down to work, provided of course they have been having the proper care.

For hatching market chickens it is advisable to set the early brooders, but it will not be profitable to hold the young stock over for breeding, as they will molt in the fall, and would not be profitable for layers when good prices prevailed.

Keep the incubators hard at work. Chicks hatched this month will command good broiler prices.

Take advantage of all clear, sunny days and allow the birds outdoors. An occasional outing like this does them a lot of good, but do not expose them to heavy wind, rain and wet storms.

Keep the pens as clear of snow as possible. Keep the fowls indoors as long as any snow remains on the ground.

If your houses are large and comfortable and the flocks are not overcrowded confinement during winter does them no harm.

If you coveled in feeding during the fall and early winter you will now have hens suffering from overfat, liver disease, indigestion or bowel troubles. Make them exercise—that is the keynote of success.

When pruning the fruit trees, which is often done this month, chip up some of the wood into convenient lengths and char it. If a large wood-burning stove can be secured enough charcoal can be made to supply the poultry during the entire year. It can be saved in a granulated or powdered form, but should be kept in covered tin cans.

LIVING IN PECOS VALLEY

LA Boy's Interesting Letter of New Mexico.

I am a farmer boy. We came out here and settled in this new country when there was not a house in sight in the Pecos valley. My father built a small house about the first thing and then sent for mother.

We thought as there was no feed corn was the best meat we could get, as they could live on grass and work, too.

We bought two yoke of oxen. They are as gentle as kittens and I could soon ride all my many, cow, calf and dog.

I used a riding plow so I could give my whole attention to driving those oxen and it took my attention and my patience, too, for every once in a while one of the four would stop to eat grass. After a while by sucking right to it we got some plowing done and raised some corn and maize.

A boy's life on a farm is not complete without a pony and a dog and a gun, and I have all of these.

There are plenty of rabbits, so my gun comes in handy. My dog is most too little to catch rabbits, but I am teaching him to run a trail.

My pony is just a wild pony off of the plains. She is as black as Black Beauty. She is so gentle now that a lady can ride her.

Besides my pony I have a cow and a calf. I wish I could show you the picture of my pony, cow, calf and dog and the oxen—Ere. Giddings, Wynum, N. M.

BEAUTIFY THE HOME YARD

To Neglect Things That Beautify and Uplift Character Does Not Always Pay.

BY H. M. SHEPARD.

The immediate grounds about the farm dwelling can be made beautiful and sanitary as few other places can. The home grounds should be ample, as large as is consistent with the size of the dwelling, and much larger than most farm home grounds are.

An acre is not too much. Some may think that an acre of land is too much to waste on a simple doorway, but it must be remembered that this part of the farm is where the farmer and his family live and spend a greater part of their time, and that the better the home grounds the better will be the life of the family.

It is a wrong estimate of life and property to be forever making money to charge the farm in area. In buying extra tracts of land for future use, and not improve and make the best of the little spot where the wife and children must spend nearly all of their life. Some look forward to and prepare

and a mark of good taste and character on the part of the farmer. Good fences around all the home grounds and lots are a necessary convenience, and keeping them in good repair adds to the neatness and beauty of the picture as a whole.

THE KITCHEN WINDOW BOX

Sow seeds of curled parsley in the window box and keep in the kitchen window. Besides being fine for soups it makes fine garnish for meat and salad-dishes.

In plant raising and growing success is built upon failures. Profit by the mistakes.

Seed boxes are called "flats" and should be four to six inches deep, a size to handle easily, with cracks or bored holes in the bottom for drainage. The soil used should not be unduly rich and should be thrown roughly into the bottom, a few inches deep, then fine, sifted soil to a depth of an inch or more covering this.

Scatter the seeds, or plant in little open trenches, covering according to size, pressing down the soil with a piece of flat board.

Very small seeds should be barely covered, larger seeds to a deeper depth. Many hard-shelled seeds, like the canna, must have the outer shell filed or soaked by pouring boiling water over, letting stand until cool before planting.

The soil should be well wet, then covered with a piece of flannel and set away in a dark, warm place until the little plants begin to show, then brought gradually to the light, removing the cover. Sprinkle the soil carefully so as not to disturb the young roots.

Do not keep too wet, or the young plants will have a tendency to "damp off." Give plenty of air and sunshine and thin the plants to avoid spindling growth. Transplant to other boxes as growth indicates in order to give stocky growth.

Plant canna, palm and many other seeds in boxes now. Pot the summer flowering bulbs in late February or March. Plant double daisy seeds to be transplanted later outside. Use judiciously in potting and planting, suiting these operations to your ability to care for the young plants. Nothing is gained by early planting if neglect is practiced.

FENCE RAIL PHILOSOPHY

Drug stores are necessary, of course, but we should not depend upon them too much. Cheerfulness is a better tonic than can be found in any drug store.

I spent three weeks last summer in a big city and the old farm never looked so good to me as when I drove through the big gate on the evening I came home. The country home is the one place on earth that is free from sleepless nights.

There is only one way to know just whether our cows are robbers or producers—buy a Babcock tester. They cannot dodge that. A robber cow—one that does not earn her keep by giving milk—can be turned into money on the butcher's block.

In planning our work it is well to plan for profits as well as for yield. The yield is not all. We will need to seek weak places in the fields and replenish with loads of manure, and then we will not need to read, study, observe and practice.

There is an opening for some enterprising individual to introduce late strawberries that will not ripen until our present well-known varieties are out of season.

Rust is the great enemy of steel and iron, and yet it does not eat up as much of the farm implements as it did prior to the introduction of axle grease. Axle grease is the panacea for rust and is an ever-present help. All it needs is some oil to make the application. Rust eats like a mortgage, which has an appetite like a buzz saw.

PLANT AN ORCHARD

I am a commercial fruit grower, but all the same I advise all farmers to grow fruit for their families for the pleasure of having it fresh and abundant the year around, for the healthfulness of it and to make the farm attractive to the children.

Some say they can buy what they want, but they seldom buy freely, or they can't spare the time and labor; but these cost far less than to buy much.

It should be deemed a duty to supply the family with fruit in great abundance the entire year.

The family fruit orchard should be near the house for convenience, even if some distant knoll may be really a better spot for the fruit. Accessibility should decide.

It should be a long and proportionately narrow rectangular plot, for the convenience of horse cultivation; but there may be as little hand hoeing as possible, and should be tilled if it needs it.—W. G. Farnsworth, Ohio.

PIANO BOX MANURE SHED

An old piano box makes a good manure shed. Manure should always be kept protected from rain and snow.

Emmons Blaine, the grandson of the late James G. Blaine, once secretary of state, lives with his mother in Chicago and has gone into the business of supplying "guaranteed eggs" to customers.

His country home is in Elmhurst and he has made his mother resident manager and his junior partner. In his advertisement her identity is concealed under the word "company."

During the week Master Blaine attends school, but he retires to the Elmhurst farm on Friday to spend all possible time with his hens. He has a large number of orders for eggs and is making a practical study of the business.

BLAINE'S GRANDSON SELLS EGGS

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FORMING A DAIRY HERD

Animals Chosen Should Be Carefully Selected and Tested Physically.

BY PROFESSOR H. E. ALVORD.

There is no point of greater importance in selecting animals for the foundation of a herd or in making purchases of additions than to get perfectly healthy stock. Animals chosen should be critically examined and should afford evidence of being strong in constitution and of healthful vigor. It is advised that all be tuberculin tested, and this of course of horses done by a competent veterinarian. Besides the robust character of the individuals, the breeding stock from which they are descended and the herd, stables and farms from which they come should be closely examined on the score of health. Breeding and rearing the animals needed to replenish and increase the herd and refusing to allow strange animals on the farm are the best safeguards against the introduction of disease.

If purchases must be made let the new stock be strictly quarantined for at least one month before mingling with the herd. On every farm of any size a well-secluded building for a stock quarantine and hospital suitably arranged and equipped is a most useful adjunct. This is not needed for calving cows or for cases of lameness or ordinary accident, but for cases of acute sickness, retention of afterbirth, abortion or any symptoms of contagious disease it is essential. Of course the building itself, its care and the attendance upon its occupants must be subjected to regulations suitable to any hospital or quarantine.

There are many of the ordinary accidents and ailments to which domestic animals are subject which can be managed by an intelligent owner or under his direction without professional assistance. "Every man his own cattle doctor" is a very delusive title; one may well follow this suggestion within reasonable limits, but there is always a point hard to define at which professional aid should promptly be summoned.

So long as an owner is certain of the difficulty and has knowledge and experience as to treatment or remedy he may depend upon home resources. But in cases of obscure, uncertainty or complications the owner of a good cow disregards his own interests and his moral obligation if he fails to summon a veterinarian, as much as if he neglected to secure proper medical service for a sick child. And the veterinarian should be selected with the same care one exercises in choosing a family physician.

Careful confinement, with impure air and lack of exercise, is as prejudicial to the health of milk cows as to that of human beings. Some recently promulgated theories of dark, warm stables and no exercise for profitable milk production are without a rational basis and certain to lead to disastrous results sooner or later. Exposure to storms and cold is equally injurious to the health and profit of cows. A judicious mean is the provision for moderate exercise in the open air and sunshine, and the application of the same common sense care for the comfort of cows who produce milk for members of his own household.

Every member of the herd, young or old, should pass under the critical eye of the owner or his trusted assistant daily, and preferably twice a day. The least symptom of disorder, like dullness, loss of appetite, rough coat and irregularity of milk, manure or urine, should be noted and promptly receive the attention which it demands. Experience is needed on the part of the caretaker to detect and correct the beginnings of trouble and thus maintain the general health of the herd.

NUBBINS OF FARM NEWS

The Artcraft Institute of Chicago recently purchased 300 acres of land near that city, which will be used for an educational farm for the teaching of the smaller outdoor industries.

A farmer near Wagon, Kan., has made a record with his cows and chickens. In nine months he has sold \$185.05 worth of butter made from the milk from three cows, and in seven months has sold \$123.60 worth of eggs and raised \$75 worth of chickens from 175 hens.

Professor C. C. Georgeson, head of the agricultural experiment station in Alaska, has arrived from Nome and says that at watermelons grown in the open at Manley Hot Springs, in the Tanana valley, was served with tomatoes grown in the open, saw a cornfield where the stalks stood seven feet high and traveled through farms on the Yukon where wheat, barley, oats and rye were maturing.

A Swedish professor is experimenting with raising electric eels. He has been conducting the experiments for some time and reports that straw-bargers yield 35 per cent more fruit when treated with electricity than ordinarily. In 1908 an electrified plot of wheat yielded 41.4 bushels an acre, while the unelectrified plot gave but 32 bushels. He also claims that the electrified plants are harder.

Inquiries conducted in over 1,000 counties of the United States by the Department of Agriculture indicate that the average length of haul of crops over country roads is 12.1 miles, the average weight of the load 2,002 pounds and the average cost per mile 28.2 cents, or about \$8 per load, the figures being based on cost of labor, feed, wear, etc.

A weed known to ranchmen of Montana as "the deadly acornite" crops causes heavy losses among stock. It is found about watering places, grows 18 inches high and is easily pulled out by the roots. Cattle resist it, roots and all, and the poison is found largely in the roots. One ranchman states that about 100 of his best 1-year-old steers were killed by it. They have applied to the government for help in exterminating the pest.

The largest tobacco farm in the world, containing 25,000 acres, is near Amsterdam, Ga. Here is grown about one-third of all the Sumatra tobacco used for cigar wrappers in the United States.

There has been 22,974 acres of sagebrush in a single tract known as the Carey Act land. Of this tract of 110,000 acres, 77,026 acres are now under irrigation and all kinds of grains are being raised.